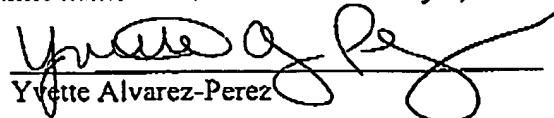


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Yvette Alvarez-Perez

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 08/922,462

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First Named Inventor : James R. DeFrancesco

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Examiner : NGUYEN, NGA B

Confirmation No. : 1577

Art Unit : 3627

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 2213-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to an Office action dated 02/01/2005, Applicant submits the following amendment for consideration by the Examiner and entry of record.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.